

These are “Action Only” minutes. Video of comments may be found on recorded discs at City Hall or at www.cityofbelfast.org.

**City of Belfast
Council Chambers-Belfast City Hall
Monday, November 1, 2021**

6:30 p.m. Committee Interview

6:45 p.m. Request to go into an Executive Session on an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6) C.

Councilor Bonneville, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to go into Executive Session on an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C at 6:46 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session on an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C at 7:04 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

7:08 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Due to the ongoing public health crisis, per Emergency Order adopted by the City Council on August 12, 2021, all City Council Meetings will be conducted online using Zoom. If you do not plan to speak at open to the public we encourage the public to stream the meeting on the City website www.cityofbelfast.org, watch live on BEL TV channel 7 or channel 1303.

Regular Council Meeting No. 10

- 1) Call to order**
- 2) Present:** Mayor Eric Sanders, Councilors Mary Mortier, Neal Harkness, Brenda Bonneville, Michael Hurley and Paul Dean; City Manager Erin Herbig and Assistant to the City Manager Manda Cushman.
- 3) Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4) Adoption of the agenda**

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to adopt the agenda. This motion was approved, 5-0.

5) Acceptance of the minutes

Regular Council Meeting of November 1, 2021.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of November 1, 2021. This was approved, 5-0.

6) A. Open to the public

City Manager Erin Herbig noted that Council received 1 email and 1 postal mail, prior to the start of the Council meeting to be included as part of the Open to the Public.

1. Public Health Nurse Susan Duplar provided an update on COVID-19 vaccines and booster shots and how the public can schedule an appointment for one.

B. Organization and Department Reports

City Manager Erin Herbig reminded the public that the City of Belfast non-emergency facilities will be closed on Wednesday, November 24th and Thursday, November 25th, the City Council will be conducting a Work Session on Tuesday, November 30th at 7pm, and requested to schedule a committee interview for an applicant for the Intown Design Committee for Tuesday, December 7th at 6:45 pm, Councilors unanimously agreed.

7) Communications

Councilor Bonneville provided an update on the Wales Park walkway and thanked Sergeant Dyer for his assistance with a citizen in need.

Councilor Harkness provided an update on the recent Election, thanked Officer Travis Spencer for his service to the City and wished him well, and notified the public of the passing of Ed Murphy.

Councilor Hurley thanked the Public Health Nurse for the information regarding COVID boosters and provided a brief update regarding the City of Belfast Christmas Tree.

Mayor Sanders discussed the COVID booster.

Councilor Mortier wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

- Consideration of an appointment to the Cemetery Trustees Committee.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to appoint Darrell Gilman to the Cemetery Trustees Committee as an alternate member. This was approved, 5-0.

9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda

- A. Request to approve a Facility Use request by The Game Loft to conduct a “Cider Pressing and Sampling” demonstration at the Park on Main on Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. This was approved, 5-0.

10) Business

- A) Update from GWI regarding their planned Broadband expansion project in Belfast.

Kerem Durdag, President and Chief Operating Officer of GWI, provided an update on GWI’s planned broadband expansion in Belfast and answered Council questions.

- B) Update on 126 Church Street.

Project Manager Earl Mackenzie provided an update the Council and public on this project and answered Council questions.

Director of Code and Planning Bub Fournier informed the public where they can find more information regarding this project on the City website.

- C) Consideration and possible sale of two tax foreclosed properties.

City Finance Director Theresa Butler and City Manager Erin Herbig reviewed the bid opening process and opened the submitted bids on the following properties:

1. 39 Smart Road
LAND/BUILDING

Bid #1: \$12,600
Name: Dan Ford
Address: 318 Hatchet Mt. Road,
Hope, ME

Bid #2: \$2,000

Name: Channelize LLC
Address: PO Box 7872
Portland, ME

Bid #3: \$7,000

Name: Edwin Johnson
Address: 35 Smart Rd.
Belfast, ME

Bid #4: \$3,100

Name: Christy Philbrook
Address: 1 Merry Lane
Belfast, ME

Bid #5: \$3,057.99

Name: Dan McQuirrie
Address: 5 Sleepy Hollow Drive
Holden, ME

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the bids for 39 Smart Rd. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to award the bid for 39 Smart Rd. to the highest bidder Dan Ford for \$12,600. This motion was approved, 5-0.

2. Marsh Road
map 016 lot 044
LAND ONLY

Bid #1: \$12,600

Name: Dan Ford
Address: 318 Hatchet Mt. Rd.
Hope, ME

Bid #2: \$5,000

Name: Channelize LLC
Address: PO Box 7872
Portland, ME

Bid #3: \$2,100

Name: Jake Weisberg
Address: 32 Powder House Blvd.
Somerville, MA

Bid #4: \$3,000

Name: Jerry Robbins Sr.
Address: 14 Marsh Rd.
Belfast, ME

Bid #5: \$3,500

Name: Craig Robbins
Address: 352 Acadia Hwy.
Montville, ME

Bid #6: \$4,039.99

Name: Dan McQuirrie
Address: 5 Sleepy Hollow Dr.
Holden, ME

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the bids for Marsh Road, map 016 lot 044. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to table the bid for Marsh Road until the December 7, 2021 Council Meeting. This motion was approved, 5-0.

D) Request to appropriate from the Undesignated Fund Balance the sum of \$774.95 to fund a prorated portion of the 2021-2022 property tax assessment attributable to the City of Belfast's period of ownership of property acquired from Paul and Nancy Hamilton by deed dated September 21, 2021, and recorded in the Waldo County Registry of Deeds at Book 4713, Page 161.

No Council discussion.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to appropriate from the Undesignated Fund Balance the sum of \$774.95 to fund a prorated portion of the 2021-2022 property tax assessment attributable to the City of Belfast's period of ownership of property acquired from Paul and Nancy Hamilton by deed dated September 21, 2021, and recorded in the Waldo County Registry of Deeds at Book 4713, Page 161. This was approved, 5-0.

E) Request to authorize hourly pay for volunteer stipend Ambulance shifts.

City Manager Erin Herbig and Fire Chief Patrick Richards reviewed the proposed increases, as follows:

Driver \$16.00 per hour/ \$192.00 per shift

EMT-B \$18.00 per hour/ \$216.00 per shift

EMT-A \$20 per hour/ \$240.00 per shift

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to authorize hourly pay for volunteer stipend Ambulance shifts, as presented. This was approved, 5-0.

F) Request to transfer \$46,000 from the American Rescue Plan Funding Account #730-911 into the Fire/ Ambulance Salary and Wages Accounts.

City Manager Erin Herbig and Fire Chief Patrick Richards reviewed the request.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to transfer \$46,000 from the American Rescue Plan Funding Account #730-911 into the Fire/ Ambulance Salary and Wages Accounts. This was approved, 5-0.

G) Review of the Climate Crisis Committees report on extreme precipitation in Belfast.

Committee members Fred Powers and Gerald Brand presented and answered Council questions.

H) Request to approve a Facility Use application by Our Town Belfast for the Annual Menorah Lighting in Post Office Square on Sunday, November 28, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Director Norm Poirier reviewed the Facility Use Request by Our Town Belfast.

Councilor Bonneville, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to approve the Facility Use application by Our Town Belfast for the Annual Menorah Lighting in Post Office Square on Sunday, November 28, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This was approved, 5-0.

D) Request to approve a Facility Use application by Our Town Belfast for the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting in Post Office Square on Saturday, December 4, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Director Norm Poirier reviewed the Facility Use Request by Our Town Belfast, noting the addition of the road closure this year to help with distancing measures.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to approve the Facility Use application by Our Town Belfast for the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting in Post Office Square on Saturday, December 4, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This was approved, 5-0.

J) Review of the Tree Inventory Report.

Councilor Mike Hurley reviewed the Tree Inventory Report and requested authorization for payment of the services of Jim Robbins.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the Tree Inventory Report as presented and to expend up to \$2,440.00 for payment to Jim Robbins for his services from the Tree Planting Account #460-678. This was approved, 4-0 (Councilor Hurley abstained).

K) Request by the Economic Development Director to have the City Council adopt an order and have the City Attorney issue a legal opinion to allow for the issuance of brownfield cleanup loans and subgrants.

Economic Development Director Thomas Kittredge reviewed the request to have the City Council adopt an order and have the City Attorney issue a legal opinion to allow for the issuance of brownfield cleanup loans and subgrants.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to adopt the included order; and authorize the City Attorney to issue a legal opinion sufficient for the City's Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Grant application to the USEPA. This was approved, 5-0.

L) Discussion on the City of Belfast COVID-19 response policy.

City Manager Erin Herbig and City Attorney Kristin Collins reviewed the policy with Councilors.

M) Request to go into Executive Session on a Legal matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to go into Executive Session on a Legal matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E at 10:48 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session on a Legal matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E at 11:24 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

N) Request to go into Executive Session on a Legal matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to go into Executive Session on a Legal matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E at 11:24 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session on a Legal matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E at 12:01 a.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

O) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

11) Communications

No Council comments.

12) Adjourn

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adjourn at 12:02 a.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE
IS A TRUE COPY OF INFORMATION
ON THE RECORD WHICH IS IN MY
OFFICIAL CUSTODY

ATTEST

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Amanda Cushman', written over a horizontal line.

AMANDA CUSHMAN, BELFAST MAINE